

Message Text

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P 030138Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCPACFLT HONOLULU

UNCLAS STATE 208692

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO MANILA, SINGAPORE
FROM KUALA LUMPUR SEPT 01:

QUOTE UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 5200

PASS IATF FOR ANTIPPAS

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SREF, VN, MY

SUBJ: MALAYSIA-77 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ON SHIP AT LABUAN, SABAH

1. ACCORDING "NEW STRAITS TIMES", LOCAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE NEWS-
PAPER, SEVENTY-SEVEN REFUGEES ARRIVED LABUAN, ISLAND OFF NW COAST
OF SABAH, WEEK OF AUGUST 24. REFUGEES ARE CONFINED TO SHIP
WHICH IS UNDERGOING REPAIRS.

2. DURING WEEK AUG 24 EMBASSY TWICE INQUIRED MFA RE STATUS
REFUGEES. EACH TIME REPLY WAS "AS YET NO INFO RECEIVED FROM
MALAYSIAN IMMIGRATION AT LABUAN."

3. A 31 AUG (SUNDAY, MALAYSIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY) 1800
HOURS. CAPT. CAMBLIN, CLARK AFB, 13TH AF DP CTR (TEL. 21241)
TELEPHONED EMBASSY TO REPORT U.S. CITIZEN ON LABUAN IDENTITY
UNKNOWN HAD CALLED SAYING BOAT WITH SEVENTY-SEVEN REFUGEES WAS
PUTTING OUT TO SEA FOR SUBIC BAY. SHIP DID NOT HAVE NAVIGATIONAL
GEAR AND WAS REQUESTING U.S. NAVY MEET AND ESCORT TO SUBIC.
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B. 1820 HOURS, EMBASSY DUTY OFFICER PHONE POLICE HQ, LABUAN.

OIC POLICE REPORTED BOAT WAS AT LABUAN BEING REPAIRED WHICH WOULD TAKE ABOUT THREE MORE DAYS. EMBASSY DUTY OFFICER INFORMED CAPT. CAMBLIN, CLARK AFB.

4. A. 1 SEPT (HOLIDAY) 0615. TALKED WITH MR. ANTIPPAS IATF, WASHDC WHO SAID AMERICAN ON LABUAN WAS MR. DAVID (TEL. 540). ANTIPPAS REQUESTED DETAILS ON REFUGEES.

B. 0635 HOURS. TELEPHONE MR. DAVID WHO GAVE FOLLOWING INFO.

1. SEVENTY-SEVEN REFUGEES LEFT SVN BY BOAT 1 AUG.
2. THERE ARE 12-13 HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD.
3. LEADER IS FORMER LT. COMMANDER, SVN NAVY WHO WORKED CLOSELY WITH U.S. FORCES, SVN. OTHERS IN GROUP INCLUDE ENGINEERS, TEACHERS, DOCTOR (CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER BIER HOA PROVINCE), AND LOWER RANKING MILITARY.

C. AT THIS POINT TELEPHONE LINES TO LABUAN WENT DEAD AND ACCORDING MALAYSIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS WILL NOT BE RESTORED UNTIL LATE AFTERNOON 1 SEPT AT EARLIEST.

D. EMBASSY DUTY OFFICER TELEPHONE DETAILS PARA 4B TO ANTIPPAS, WASHDC.

5. WE WILL REPORT ADDITIONAL INFO AS AVAILABLE. DILLON UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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